



News Release

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
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**Mesa Foster and Adoptive Parents
Receive Appreciation Award
Tim and Lynn McMurray Recognized by
The Arizona Foster Care and Adoption Coalition**

(Phoenix, November 1, 2005) Tim and Lynn McMurray of Mesa, foster and adoptive parents, were recently recognized by the Arizona Foster Care and Adoption Coalition for their dedication to foster and adoptive care. They were nominated by Hydee Landes, Aid to Adoption of Special Kids (AASK) Foster Care Family Specialist.

In nominating the McMurrays, Landes said, "Tim and Lynn have been providing excellent foster care to Arizona's children for the past 10 years." In addition to opening their home to approximately 50 foster children, the McMurrays have made themselves available to numerous new foster families to answer questions and provide support, "Landes added.

Prior to becoming foster parents, the McMurrays had adopted a son and had two biological children. In addition, they have adopted a sibling group of three Native American children who had been placed in their home through foster care.

Nominations were open to any individual in the state who continually "goes the extra mile" in assisting children achieve permanency in their home life. This was the fourth annual recognition event. The McMurray's received the award during the Children Need Homes Conference sponsored by the Arizona Department of Economic Security – Division of Children, Youth, and Families. The theme of this year's conference was "Through the Eyes of a Child: A Place to Belong."

Ten awards were presented to Arizonans at the event. Other recipients included Linda Brown of Phoenix, case aide with the Department of Economic Security – Administration for Children Youth and Families; Linda Cunningham of Tucson, adoption subsidy supervisor with the Department of Economic Security – Division of Children, Youth, and Families; Rachel Ostro of Phoenix, case manager with Child Protective Services; Lynne Van Gould of Mesa, licensing worker with the ARISE Agency; Carol and Ross Grimand of Hereford, foster parents; Gay Rubey of Phoenix, adoption case manager with the state Department of Economic Security – Division of Developmental Disabilities; Danielle Delacio of Tucson, foster parent; Julie Rosario of Tucson, supervisor with Catholic Social Services; and the Honorable Suzanna S. Cuneo of Tucson, Superior Court Commissioner, Pima County Juvenile Court.

